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21 November 1957

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief/SR/7

ATTENTION :

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SUBJECT : Hydrogen Gas Generator

REFERENCE : Memorandum for C/TSS, from C/SR/7, dated 9 August 1957, Same Subject

1. The memorandum referenced above requested that the Baker Mobile Hydrogen Gas Generator developed by TSS be tested for sustained operation and for compatibility with presently available standard German high pressure gas cylinders. An informal progress report has been requested by the addressee and it is the intent of this memorandum to serve as such a report.

2. The subject generator was transferred to ERDL, Fort Belvoir, for test by the Industrial Gas Branch of the Mechanical Division. The test schedule included around the clock operation on a five day week basis and a suitable compressor was included as part of the test apparatus. The original tests were scheduled for 12 August through 13 September. Minor modifications to the generator intended to facilitate continuous operation were made and the performance of the generator was quite satisfactory until serious trouble occurred on 12 September. Although the difficulty encountered was at first believed to be repairable on a reasonably short time schedule and not serious in nature, quite the opposite situation developed. The difficulty is one involving the basic design of the most important generator part. Repair work accomplished by specialists in this field has proved to be inadequate and no sure solution to the problem is known at the present time.

3. It is the intent of TSS/ED to attempt to find an adequate solution to the present problem and to take the necessary steps to insure reliable performance of the generator unit. Various approaches to the problem are currently under study and a firm program should result therefrom. No time estimate of availability of the generator unit can properly be made until such a program has been established.

4. A detailed report will be available from ERDL at the completion of this work; should more specific information be desired it will be furnished upon request.

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Chief
TSS/Engineering Division

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